

Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy ("EES") Board
DRAFT Summary Matrix on New Hampshire's Independent Energy Study (Pursuant to "SB 323")
August 2, 2012

Table 1: Major Energy Policy Actions Recommended in New Hampshire	VEIC	EES	Notes	Timing	Final
Step 1 - Refocus and Clarify the State's Energy Policy Direction Chapters 1, 3, and 14					
Review multiple energy policy statements developed over the years and enact a single, comprehensive, policy statement that provides clear direction for both energy efficiency and sustainable energy in the future.	ES, 1	1			
Review multiple energy policy statements developed over the years and enact a single, comprehensive, energy policy statement that provides clear policy direction for energy efficiency (INCLUDING DELIVERED FUELS).	14				
Enact a general policy of support for sustainable energy.	14				
Step 2 - Develop Clearer Regulatory Guidance Chapters 3, 7, and 14					
Adopt a new Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) that either sets specific efficiency targets for the state over multiple years or establishes a clear mandate for setting such targets on a recurring basis.	ES, 3, 14	3			
Enact a Least Cost Procurement (LCP) requirement that directs utilities to procure the least cost strategies for meeting customer energy needs, which is often energy efficiency.	ES, 14	3			
Increase the System Benefits Charge to enable increased investment in energy efficiency in a manner that appropriately supports EERS and LCP implementation. Such investment has been proven to yield net positive benefits to the state and consumers.	ES, 14	3, 4, 5 & 6			
Update New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard to support in-state market development.	ES, 7, 14	7	Wait and see		
Consider all mechanisms to support a fuel-neutral Renewable Portfolio Standard , and adopt such a mechanism to ensure the full range of renewable and sustainable energy sources are eligible for both electric and thermal energy production.	ES, 7	7	Wait and see		
Establish a permanent source of long-term funding for sustainable energy support. At the current stage of New Hampshire's markets, further development based on investment in sustainable energy will not occur at the levels necessary to benefit the state without a long-term, permanent source of funding to support market development.	7, 14	7			
Step 3 - Improve the Regulatory Process and Modify Performance Incentives Chapters 3, 9, and 14					
Once an EERS and LCP are in place, carefully implement further decoupling of utility revenues to remove disincentives to utility investments in energy efficiency.	ES, 14	1			
Establish an efficient, time-limited collaborative process for developing new program plans and goals using the knowledge and expertise of an independent third party that can help balance consumer and utility interests. Conduct the process in a non-adjudicative setting to minimize regulatory complexity and costs for all parties while increasing public input.	ES, 1, 14	1	toned down		
Ensure that program goals are aggressive and that there is a sustained commitment to meeting the goals and to increasing goals over time.	ES, 1, 14	1, 9			
Strengthen the performance based approach to implementation of energy efficiency programs by the regulated utilities, and ensure utilities have the proper incentives for meeting aggressive program and market development goals.	ES, 1, 9, 14	1, 9			
Allocate 3-7% of program budgets to evaluation, measurement, and verification (EM&V) and ensure EM&V is conducted by a third party evaluator operating independently of the party being evaluated.	ES, 1, 14	1, 3 (sort of/ broadly associated)	ADD more strongly		
Develop and require the use of standard and consistent reporting metrics for regulated programs to increase consistency and transparency when reporting program yields and impacts.	ES, 3, 14		ADD?		
Allow fund administrator(s) to respond to a growing and dynamic market. The current policy framework requires legislative action to authorize each change to the current mechanisms for providing financial support for sustainable energy activities.	7, 14				
Encourage utilities to invest in sustainable energy distributed generation. Investment in this type of distributed generation has real benefits in terms of energy, capacity, and reliability and could (if applied strategically) help defer or avoid transmission and distribution upgrades. It is recommended that the state investigate and address obstacles to speedy project review at the state and local levels. A review of RSA 374-G: Electric Utility Investment in Distributed Energy Resources 2008 suggests that this legislation has not provided a clear path to developing valuable projects, and its provisions need to be revisited.	7, 14				
Establish permitting and other infrastructure to support community-scale sustainable energy development. Community-scale planning and development is becoming one of the most effective channels for investment in energy efficiency and sustainable energy. Continuing to refine permitting, group netmetering and interconnection requirements, and other standards and model ordinances that provide appropriate support for community-scale projects will further enable such investments in the future.	7, 14				
Step 4 - Increase Program Coordination and Further Streamline Administration Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6					
Continue efforts among utilities to increase the consistency in offerings, rebate and incentive levels, eligible technologies, etc. across energy efficiency and sustainable energy program offerings.	ES, 14				
Continue to strengthen and enhance coordination of low income weatherization services between the utilities and the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, and develop shared IT resources to strengthen program management.	ES, 6, 14	6			
Develop a trusted, single source of contact for energy efficiency and sustainable energy programs and services, building upon and expanding the early efforts originally focused around NHSaves.	ES, 1, 14	1			
Step 5 - Use Public Policy, Funding, and Scaled Program Structures to Attract and Leverage Private Investment Chapter 10					
Consolidate finance programs into a single-administrator, coordinated statewide program, while adapting programs to be responsive to the unique needs of different market segments.	ES, 10, 14	10	explore only single admin		
Leverage New Hampshire Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs) and state and federal grant dollars to fund a statewide loan loss reserve fund.	ES, 10, 14	NONE			
Use outreach, education, and audit programs to raise customers' awareness of financing opportunities.	ES, 10	NONE	ADD?		
Evaluate and redesign marketing and messaging for finance programs with different market sectors in mind.	ES, 10	NONE	ADD?		

Support PACE and other small customer- and community-focused lending strategies with legislation and strategic capability building.	10, 14				
Wherever possible, have loans be available for all cost-effective energy efficiency and sustainable energy investment even if the program providing the financing is tied to a single fuel or to regulated fuels.	14				
Recognize that codes and standards development and support represent a form of leveraging and financing, as they require consumer investments in higher efficiency buildings and products (resulting in savings), and therefore drive the market to more efficient norms.	14				
The state can also take the lead in supporting and advocating for increased federal weatherization funding, and take the lead on addressing the need for energy efficiency funding for delivered fuels, such as heating oil, propane, etc.	14				
Step 6 – Create a Home for Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Implementation Support and Oversight in State Government <i>Chapter 14</i>					
Designate a specific entity within state government responsible for ensuring implementation of state policies and goals regarding energy efficiency and sustainable energy. Currently, a number of Commissions, agencies, departments, offices, and/or Boards each have a share of the responsibility, but no single entity is charged with ensuring state energy policies and goals are met.	ES, 14	13			
Step 7 – Encourage State and Local Governments to Lead by Example <i>Chapters 11 and 13</i>					
Use the purchasing power of state government as the largest energy consumer in New Hampshire to stimulate and develop energy efficiency and sustainable energy markets.	ES, 14				
Leverage the momentum of the more than 100 Local Energy Committees in New Hampshire, the leadership of town government, and the roles of Regional Planning Commissions to stimulate and develop energy efficiency and sustainable energy markets.	ES, 14				
Recognize the importance of land use planning and zoning in the energy requirements needed for transportation, and better integrate land use planning and zoning issues in both state and local energy initiatives in the future.	ES, 11, 14	11			NO